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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02860.0637-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Norikazu ARAI et al.) Group Art Unit: 2655
Application No.: 10/611,920) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: July 3, 2003)
For: OPTICAL PICKUP APPARATUS,) Confirmation No.: 5626
RECORDING/REPRODUCING)
APPARATUS PROVIDED WITH)
THE OPTICAL PICKUP)
APPARATUS, OPTICAL)
ELEMENT, AND INFORMATION)
RECORDING/REPRODUCING)
METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached.

Copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

An English Abstract of the non-English document is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

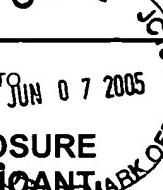
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 7, 2005

By: 
Michael R. Kelly
Reg. No. 33,921

JUN 07 2005


**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|------------------|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 02860.0637-04000 |
|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|------------------|

Complete if Known

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|----------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 10/611,920 |
| Filing Date | July 3, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Norikazu ARAI et al. |
| Art Unit | 2655 |
| Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | | US-5,777,970 | 07-07-1998 | Kajiyama et al. | |
| | | US-5,917,791 | 06-29-1999 | Tsuchiya et al. | |
| | | US-5,936,782 | 08-10-1999 | Nomura et al. | |
| | | US-6,023,449 | 02-08-2000 | Chung | |
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| | | US-6,154,433 | 11-28-2000 | Hoshino et al. | |
| | | US-6,191,889 | 02-20-2001 | Maruyama | |
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| | | US-6,442,124 | 08-27-2002 | Chung et al. | |
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| | | US- | | | |

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation ⁶ |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | JP 10-092010 | 04-10-1998 | Cho et al. | | Abstract |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.